

March 10, 1976

Koch in his remarks we do have with us in the south balcony twelve members of the Ralston Chamber of Commerce. We thank you gentlemen for coming. We hope that you enjoy your visit with the Nebraska Legislature.

CLERK: Mr. President, your committee on E & R reports that we have examined and reviewed LB665 and recommend that it be placed on Select File as amended, 794 as amended, 819 as amended on Select File.

Mr. President, the next amendment is offered by Senator Frank Lewis as is set out on page 887 of the Legislative Journal.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Mr. President, this particular amendment is the amendment for the distribution of funds that should have been in the original committee bill. As we increase the insured needs and the equalization section we need to try and continue the practice that we have before and that is to make sure that the distribution of funds is 50-50, 50% foundation and 50% equalization. Senator Koch you might want to comment further on this.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. President, members of the body this is a correct amendment, it has to be, because the philosophy of the present state aid bill is that after the incentives have been recognized the remaining portion of the money remaining will be equally divided between the foundation and the insured need section. That is on a 50-50 basis. That is as good a compromise as we are going to get on this body. As you all know the argument has been going on for years, those who believe in foundation and those who believe in equalization. Some believe that it should be 60-40 one way and others believe that it should be 40-60 the other way. I believe that the only way that state aid is going to become a part of reality in terms of what we are seeking 40% of the operational cost to public schools we must do it on a 50-50 basis. Anytime that money is placed in it, 50 in the foundation and 50 in equalization. I move for the adoption of this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Record your vote...oh, I'm sorry. I didn't see that, my arm was over it. Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DE CAMP: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. May I ask a few questions. If you don't adopt this amendment what percent will go to equalization? Approximately?

PRESIDENT: Which Senator will respond to Senator DeCamp? Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: If we don't adopt this amendment then there will be no direction saying that the funds shall be split equally in those two major sections of the bill.

SENATOR DE CAMP: And, what happens.

SENATOR KOCH: The priority will only be incentives.